

Appl. No. 10/735,613
Amendment dated: March 6, 2006
Reply to OA of: November 7, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-5 (canceled).

6(currently amended). A permanent magnet ring formed by arranging a plurality of unit permanent magnets, wherein each of the unit permanent magnets is formed in a cylindrical shape, a spherical shape, a flat shape, or a disc shape, and a predetermined number of the unit permanent magnets are magnetically attracted to each other on respective side surfaces so as to be formed in a ring shape, wherein each of a plurality of said unit permanent magnets is a rare earth magnet, wherein the rare earth magnet is a neodymium iron boron magnet and is a uniaxial anisotropic magnet in which an N pole or an S pole is formed on one part of the side surface orthogonal to an easily magnetizing direction, which is formed at a time of molding a raw material including a rare earth element in a magnetic field, by magnetizing along said easily magnetizing direction after sintering, and the S pole or the N pole is formed on another part of the side surface opposite to said one part of the side surface, the side surface, on which the magnetic poles of the unit permanent magnet are formed, is formed to be a curved surface, and a predetermined number of the unit permanent magnets, which are the uniaxial anisotropic magnets, are magnetically attracted to each other in a line contact aspect or a point contact aspect on the curved side surfaces on which the magnetic poles are formed, so as to be formed in a ring shape having a predetermined size.

7(previously presented). A permanent magnet ring as claimed in claim 6, wherein said unit permanent magnets are formed in a circular cross sectional shape, and formed in a cylindrical shape as a whole, and a predetermined number of the unit

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permanent magnets are magnetically attracted to each other in a line contact aspect on the curved side surfaces on which the magnetic poles are formed, so as to be formed in a ring shape.

8(previously presented). A permanent magnet ring as claimed in claim 6, wherein said unit permanent magnets are formed in a spherical shape, and a predetermined number of the unit permanent magnets are magnetically attracted to each other in a point contact aspect on the curved side surfaces on which the magnetic poles are formed, so as to be formed in a ring shape.

9(previously presented). A permanent magnet ring as claimed in claim 6, wherein said unit permanent magnets are formed in a flat shape, and a predetermined number of the unit permanent magnets are magnetically attracted to each other in a line contact aspect on the curved side surfaces on which the magnetic poles are formed, so as to be formed in a ring shape.

10(original). A permanent magnet ring as claimed in any one of claims 6, 7, 8 and 9, wherein a plated layer is formed on a surface of said unit permanent magnet, and a transparent siliceous coating layer is formed over the plated layer.

Claims 11-13(canceled).